

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5**

**IN THE MATTER OF:**

Aventine Renewable Energy, Inc.  
7201 Port Road  
Mt. Vernon, Indiana 47620

**ATTENTION:**

Nathaniel Kendle, Operations Support Manager

**Request to Provide Information Pursuant to the Clean Air Act**

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is requiring Aventine Renewable Energy, Inc. (Aventine or you)] to submit certain information about your facility at 7201 Port Road, Mt. Vernon, Indiana 47620. Appendix C specifies the information that you must submit. Appendix B specifies the instructions needed to answer this information request. You must send this information to us within 30 calendar days after you receive this request.

We are issuing this information request under Section 114(a) of the Clean Air Act (CAA or the Act), 42 U.S.C. § 7414(a). Section 114(a) authorizes the Administrator of EPA to require the submission of information. The Administrator has delegated this authority to the Director of the Air and Radiation Division, Region 5.

Aventine owns and operates an emission source at the Mt. Vernon, Indiana facility. We are requesting this information to determine whether your emission source is complying with the Indiana State Implementation Plan and the CAA.

You must send all required information to:

Attn: Compliance Tracker, AE-17J  
Air Enforcement and Compliance Assurance Branch  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Region 5  
77 W. Jackson Boulevard  
Chicago, Illinois 60604

Under 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B, you may assert a claim of business confidentiality for any portion of the submitted information. You must specify the page, paragraph, and sentence when identifying the information subject to your claim. Appendix A specifies the assertion and substantiation requirements for business confidentiality claims. Aventine must submit all requested information under an authorized signature with the following certification:

I certify under penalty of law that I have examined and am familiar with the information in the enclosed documents, including all attachments. Based on my inquiry of those individuals with primary responsibility for obtaining the information, I certify that the statements and information are, to the best of my knowledge and belief, true and complete. I am aware that there are significant penalties for knowingly submitting false statements and information, including the possibility of fines or imprisonment pursuant to Section 113(c)(2) of the Act, and 18 U.S.C. §§ 1001 and 1341.

We may use any information submitted in response to this request in an administrative, civil, or criminal action.

This request is not subject to the Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. § 3501 et seq., because it seeks collection of information from specific individuals or entities as part of an administrative action or investigation. To aid in our electronic recordkeeping efforts, EPA requests that you provide all documents responsive to this request in an electronic format in accordance with a. through f., below. These submissions are in lieu of hard copy.

a. Provide all responsive documents in Portable Document Format (PDF) or similar format, unless otherwise requested in specific questions. If the PDFs are scanned images,

perform at least Optical Character Recognition (OCR) for “image over text” to allow the document to be searchable. Submitters providing secured PDFs should also provide unsecured versions for EPA use in repurposing text.

b. When specific questions request data in electronic spreadsheet form, provide the data and corresponding information in editable Excel or Lotus format, and not in image format. If Excel or Lotus formats are not available, then the format should allow for data to be used in calculations by a standard spreadsheet program such as Excel or Lotus.

c. Provide submission on physical media such as compact disk, flash drive or other similar item.

d. Provide a table of contents for each compact disk or flash drive containing electronic documents submitted in response to our request so that each document can be accurately identified in relation to your response to a specific question. *We recommend the use of electronic file folders organized by question number.* In addition, each compact disk or flash drive should be labeled appropriately (e.g., Company Name, Disk 1 of 4 for Information Request Response, Date of Response).

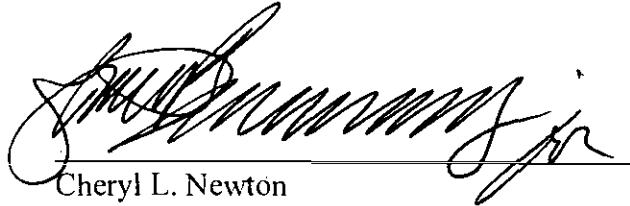
e. Documents claimed as confidential business information (CBI) must be submitted on separate disks/drives apart from the non-confidential information. This will facilitate appropriate records management and appropriate handling and protection of the CBI. Please also mark each page that is confidential business information as such.

f. Certify that the attached files have been scanned for viruses and indicate what program was used.

Failure to comply fully with this request for information may subject Aventine to an enforcement action under Section 113 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7413.

You should direct any questions about this request for information to Greg Gehrig at  
(312) 886-4434.

11/3/11  
Date

  
Cheryl L. Newton  
Director  
Air and Radiation Division

## Appendix A

### Confidential Business Information (CBI) Assertion and Substantiation Requirements

#### A. Assertion Requirements

You may assert a business confidentiality claim covering any part of the information requested in the attached letter, as provided in 40 C.F.R. § 2.203(b). To make a confidentiality claim, submit the requested information and indicate that you are making a claim of confidentiality. Any document over which you make a claim of confidentiality should be marked by attaching a cover sheet stamped or typed with a legend to indicate the intent to claim confidentiality. The stamped or typed legend or other suitable form of notice should employ language such as "trade secret" or "proprietary" or "company confidential" and indicate a date, if any, when the information should no longer be treated as confidential. Information covered by such a claim will be disclosed by the United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) only to the extent permitted and by means of the procedures set forth by Section 114(c) of the Clean Air Act (the Act), 42 U.S.C. § 7414, and 40 C.F.R. Part 2. Allegedly confidential portions of otherwise non-confidential documents should be clearly identified. EPA will construe the failure to furnish a confidentiality claim with your response to the attached letter as a waiver of that claim, and the information may be made available to the public without further notice to you.

Please segregate personnel, medical and similar files from your responses and include that information on separate sheet(s) marked as "Personal Privacy Information" given that disclosure of such information to the general public may constitute an invasion of privacy.

#### B. Substantiation Requirements

All confidentiality claims are subject to EPA verification and must be made in accordance with 40 C.F.R. § 2.208 which provides in part that you satisfactorily show that you have taken reasonable measures to protect the confidentiality of the information and that you intend to continue to do so; and that the information is not and has not been reasonably obtainable by legitimate means without your consent.

Pursuant to 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B, EPA may at any time send you a letter asking you to substantiate fully your CBI claim. If you receive such a letter, you must provide EPA with a response within the number of days set forth in the EPA request letter. Failure to submit your comments within that time would be regarded as a waiver of your confidentiality claim or claims, and EPA may release the information. If you receive such a letter, EPA will ask you to specify which portions of the information you consider confidential. **You must be specific by page, paragraph, and sentence when identifying the information subject to your claim.** Any information not specifically identified as subject to a confidentiality claim may be disclosed to the requestor without further notice to you. For each item or class information that you identify as being subject to CBI, you must answer the following questions, giving as much detail as possible:

1. For what period of time do you request that the information be maintained as confidential, e.g., until a certain date, until the occurrence of a special event, or permanently? If the occurrence of a specific event will eliminate the need for confidentiality, please specify that event.
2. Information submitted to EPA becomes stale over time. Why should the information you claim as confidential be protected for the time period specified in your answer to question #1?
3. What measures have you taken to protect the information claimed as confidential? Have you disclosed the information to anyone other than a governmental body or someone who is bound by an agreement not to disclose the information further? If so, why should the information still be considered confidential?
4. Is the information contained in any publicly available databases, promotional publications, annual reports, or articles? Is there any means by which a member of the public could obtain access to the information? Is the information of a kind that you would customarily not release to the public?
5. Has any governmental body made a determination as to confidentiality of the information? If so, please attach a copy of the determination.
6. For each category of information claimed as confidential, explain with specificity why release of the information is likely to cause substantial harm to your competitive position. Explain the specific nature of those harmful effects, why they should be viewed as substantial, and the causal relationship between disclosure and such harmful effects. How could your competitors make use of this information to your detriment?
7. Do you assert that the information is submitted on a voluntary or a mandatory basis? Please explain the reason for your assertion. If you assert that the information is voluntarily submitted information, explain whether and why disclosure of the information would tend to lessen the availability to EPA of similar information in the future.
8. Any other issue you deem relevant.

Please note that emission data provided under Section 114 of the Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7414, is not entitled to confidential treatment under 40 C.F.R. Part 2. "Emission data" means, with reference to any source of emission of any substance into the air:

Information necessary to determine the identity, amount, frequency, concentration or other characteristics (to the extent related to air quality) of any emission which has been emitted by the source (or of any pollutant resulting from any emission by the source), or any combination of the foregoing;

Information necessary to determine the identity, amount, frequency, concentration or other characteristics (to the extent related to air quality) of the emissions which,

under an applicable standard or limitation, the source was authorized to emit (including to the extent necessary for such purposes, a description of the manner and rate of operation of the source); and

A general description of the location and/or nature of the source to the extent necessary to identify the source and to distinguish it from other sources (including, to the extent necessary for such purposes, a description of the device, installation, or operation constituting the source).

40 C.F.R. §§ 2.301 (a)(2)(i)(A), (B) and (C).

Emission data includes, but is not limited to, service records stating the amount of refrigerant added to a unit or reclaimed from a unit.

If you receive a request for a substantiation letter from the EPA, you bear the burden of substantiating your confidentiality claim. Conclusory allegations will be given little or no weight in the determination. In substantiating your CBI claim(s), you must bracket all text so claimed and mark it "CBI." Information so designated will be disclosed by EPA only to the extent allowed by and by means of the procedures set forth in 40 C.F.R. Part 2, Subpart B. If you fail to claim the information as confidential, it may be made available to the public without further notice to you.

## **Appendix B**

When providing the information requested in Appendix C, use the following instructions and definitions.

### **INSTRUCTIONS**

1. Provide a separate narrative response to each question and subpart of a question set forth in the information request.
2. Precede each answer with the number of the question to which it corresponds and at the end of each answer, identify the person(s) that provided information that was used or considered in responding to that question, as well as each person that was consulted in the preparation of that response.
3. Indicate on each document produced in response to this information request, or in some other reasonable manner, the number of the question to which it corresponds.
4. When a response is provided in the form of a number, specify the units of measure of the number in a precise manner.
5. Where documents or information necessary for a response are neither in your possession nor available to you, indicate in your response why such documents or information is not available or in your possession and identify any source that either possesses or is likely to possess such information.

### **DEFINITIONS**

All terms used in this request for information will have their ordinary meaning unless such terms are defined in the Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 7401 et seq., 40 C.F.R. Part 52 (which incorporates the federally-approved State Implementation Plan), or other Clean Air Act implementing regulations. Reference is made to the EPA regulatory provisions only; however, you should apply the applicable federally-approved state provisions, when appropriate. Definitional clarification is specified below.

1. The terms “document” and “documents” shall mean any object that records, stores, or presents information, and includes writings, memoranda, records, or information of any kind, formal or informal, whether wholly or partially handwritten or typed, whether in computer format, memory, or storage device, or in hardcopy, including any form or format of these. If in computer format or memory, each such document shall be provided in translation to a form useable and readable by EPA, with all necessary documentation and support. All documents in hard copy should also include attachments to or enclosures with any documents.
2. The terms “relate to” or “pertain to” (or any form thereof) shall mean constituting, reflecting, representing, supporting, contradicting, referring to, stating, describing, recording, noting, embodying, containing, mentioning, studying, analyzing, discussing, evaluating or relevant to.



## Appendix C

Aventine Renewable Energy, Inc. (Aventine) must submit the following information to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency for the facility at 7201 Port Road, Mt. Vernon, Indiana 47620 (facility) within 30 calendar days pursuant to Section 114 of the Clean Air Act, 42 U.S.C. § 7414.

- (1) Provide the name and address of the original owner and/or operator of the facility. Specify when Aventine acquired or otherwise became owner of the facility, and identify the individual(s), corporation(s) or other entities from whom the facility was acquired. Explain if Aventine has any corporate, partnership or other business relationships or affiliations with any previous owner or operator of the facility, and if so, provide a complete description of such relationship and affiliation. Provide a list of current owners and the current corresponding ownership stake in the facility.
- (2) Provide a list of all air permits and permit applications (if any), including any permits to construct, operate, or orders issued since the issuance of Aventine's Part 70 Permit No. 129-24836-00051 on September 20, 2007. In the list:
  - a. Specify the date of permit issuance; and,
  - b. Provide a list of equipment that was modified, removed or constructed pursuant to the permit.
- (3) Provide annual and monthly production data of the following products for the time period since November 2010 (facility's first day of operation to present):
  - a. Ethanol (undenatured);
  - b. Dry Distillers Grain (DDG) in terms of dry feed or dry feed equivalent; and,
  - c. Wet Distillers Grain (WDG) in terms of dry feed or dry feed equivalent.
- (4) Provide annual and monthly use data of the following commodities for the time period since November 2010 (facility's first day of operation to present):
  - a. Grain; and,
  - b. Natural gas.
- (5) Provide map(s) or drawing(s), identifying all air emissions sources (including identification number) and associated processes at the facility, including, but not limited to: grain receiving and handling operation, corn storage bins, hammer mills, fermentation process, the thermal oxidizers (TOs), distillation process, dryers (feed dryers and feed cooling drum), DDG, WDG, handling and storage operations, ethanol loading system, scrubbers, baghouses, and tanks.
- (6) Provide an electronic Excel workbook with the complete, facility-wide potential to emit calculations. Include a description of how these numbers are derived, including references to any published emission factors and/or data used to calculate emissions.

- (7) Provide records for upsets in the operation of any process units that could generate additional emissions. This includes Quarterly Deviation and Compliance Monitoring Reports. Specifically, be sure to provide:
- a. The manufacturer's specifications of the process unit(s) in question, including recommended operating and maintenance procedures (if not already provided as part of this information request);
  - b. A description of the incident with explanation of the cause;
  - c. Corrective actions and any preventative measures taken; and,
  - d. An estimate of the additional emissions that occurred, with supporting calculations and background information.

**Be sure to provide this information for the venting pressure relief valves and header connection atop the fermentors observed during the June 28, 2011, EPA inspection.**

- (8) Provide a list and copies of each stack test conducted on any emissions unit for any reason at the facility since November 2010 (facility's first day of operation to present). Include all test runs, even if a full test series was not completed. In the response, clearly identify the emissions unit; specify the date of the test, and test method(s) used. Emissions testing includes, but is not limited to, compliance testing, engineering testing, and testing for general information. Also provide a copy of any report that resulted from the emissions test that meets the above criteria. Indicate whether such report was shared with IDEM. Provide copies of the entire report. Provide all calculations relative to the stack test, and provide copies of the full test report, including the section describing the process parameters and production or processing rates at the time of the test. Also, provide copies of any reports of visible emission observations conducted during each test. For each test during which the source was not operating at maximum design capacity, provide an explanation why production was limited.
- (9) Provide true, accurate and complete copies of all approved alternatives for monitoring, reporting, recordkeeping or testing requests that were approved by the EPA or the IDEM. Also, provide true, accurate and complete copies of all correspondence concerning the approval alternative requests.
- (10) Provide the following information for each boiler at the facility, from November 2010 (facility's first day of operation to present):
- a. Operating hours in hours per month and hours per year; and,
  - b. Monthly natural gas usage records (in cubic feet per month).
- (11) Provide the following information for each baghouse at the facility, from November 2010 (facility's first day of operation to present):
- a. The manufacturer's specifications, including recommended operating and maintenance procedures;
  - b. All records of the operating pressure drop readings taken at each baghouse;
  - c. All inspection, maintenance, and repair logs;

- d. Identify if a fixed stack damper is installed. If so, provide the installation date and the restricted flow rate; and,
  - e. Any excess opacity or opacity deviation reports, including start-up, shut-down and malfunction.
- (12) Provide copies of manufacturer specifications for each scrubber at the facility. Provide the following information for each scrubber at the facility, from November 2010 (facility's first day of operation to present):
- a. Manufacturer's technical specifications, including capacity;
  - b. Capacity of scrubber blower in horsepower and acfm;
  - c. Scrubber water flow rate (hourly average);
  - d. Scrubber water outlet temperature (<sup>0</sup>F, hourly average);
  - e. Scrubber exhaust gas outlet temperature (<sup>0</sup>F, hourly average);
  - f. Type and usage rate of scrubbing additive for control of acetaldehyde (gallons per day);
  - g. The operating differential pressure across the packed bed and demister section of the scrubber (hourly average);
  - h. The monitoring system high and low alarm settings for scrubber differential pressure;
  - i. Any permit deviation reports, including start-up, shut-down and malfunction reports including calculations used to estimate mass of material released;
  - j. Document steps taken to clean scrubber packing and frequency of cleanings;
  - k. Type of scrubber packing used and frequency of replacement; and,
  - l. Inspection, maintenance, and repair logs.
- (13) Provide the following information for the two TOs, from November 2010 (facility's first day of operation to present):
- a. The manufacturer's specifications, including recommended operating and maintenance procedures;
  - b. A copy of the 'standard operating procedures' (SOP) plan that addresses normal startups and shutdowns, TO burnout, and the transition to/from normal operation of each dryer / process;
  - c. Rated firing capacity of each fuel burner (mmBtu/hour);
  - d. Monthly natural gas usage records (in cubic feet per month);
  - e. Temperature readings within the TOs while in operation at 15 minute intervals, in an Excel Workbook, including date and time of readings;
  - f. Most recent efficiency testing results and date of efficiency test;
  - g. If filters are a part of the TOs, provide a date and description of any issues the facility has had with the internal filters;
  - h. Describe any maintenance issues the facility has needed to correct since the initial operation of the unit;
  - i. Any permit deviation reports, including start-up, shut-down and malfunction; and,

- j. For process units controlled by the two TOs, the operating levels of the units during periods when units operated when the TOs were out of service or were experiencing an upset or malfunction.
- (14) Provide the following information for each dryer at the facility, from November 2010 (facility's first day of operation to present):
- a. The manufacturer's specifications, including recommended operating and maintenance procedures;
  - b. Operating temperature;
  - c. Rated firing capacity of each fuel burner (mmBtu/hour);
  - d. Moisture content of material leaving each dryer (including feed cooling drum);
  - e. Flow rate of syrup into each dryer;
  - f. Average weight of syrup added expressed as pounds syrup per pound DDG and WDG; and,
  - g. Percent solids of syrup added to dryers.
- (15) Provide the following information for the loadout process/flare at the facility, from November 2010 (facility's first day of operation to present):
- a. The manufacturer's specifications, including recommended operating and maintenance procedures;
  - b. Continuous temperature monitoring of the flare while in operation;
  - c. Monthly hours of operation;
  - d. Any excess visible emission reports;
  - e. Destruction efficiency determination/documentation;
  - f. Operating records, including date and amount, of ethanol loaded out; and,
  - g. Explanation and calculations detailing how the facility quantifies emissions from the loading of the facility's gasoline denaturant tank, specifically during the loading of denaturant into the tank.
- (16) For the facility's leak detection and repair program, provide the following, from November 2010 (facility's first day of operation to present):
- a. A copy of all applicable notifications and reporting documents required by 40 C.F.R. § 60.487;
  - b. Any permit deviation reports;
  - c. Make, model and serial number of monitoring instrument used;
  - d. Calibration gas used; and
  - e. A copy of the most recent semi-annual compliance report, which lists all components tested and the status of each component.
- (17) Provide the reports for the inspection of any internal components (floating roof, seals, gaskets, etc.) for storage tanks holding denaturant (i.e. gasoline), 200 proof ethanol, and denatured ethanol. Provide documentation of any repairs and/or modifications made to those tanks.

- (18) Indicate if the information provided in items 3, 4 & 7 to 17 above includes the startup period (i.e. in 2005 prior to initiation of normal operations). Indicate who constructed the facility and conducted startup operations at the facility (i.e. name of the builder).

Standard bcc's:	Official File Copy w/Attachment (s)
	Originating Organization Reading File w/Attachment(s)
Other bcc's:	Cynthia King, C-14J
	Greg Gerhig, AE-17J

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING**

I, Tracy Jamison, certify that I sent a Request to Provide Information Pursuant to the Clean Air Act by Certified Mail, Return Receipt Requested, to:

Nathaniel Kendle  
Operations Support Manager  
Aventine Renewable Energy, Inc.  
7201 Port Road  
Mt. Vernon, Indiana 47620

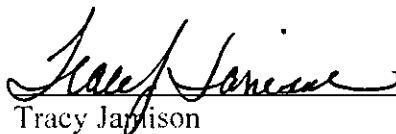
I also certify that I sent a copy of the Request to Provide Information Pursuant to the Clean Air Act by First-Class Mail to:

David Holder  
Deputy Director  
Indiana Department of Environmental Management  
Southwest Regional Office  
1120 Vincennes Avenue PO Box 128  
Petersburg, IN 47567-0128

AND

Phil Perry  
Branch Chief  
Indiana Department of Environmental Management  
Office of Air Quality/  
Compliance & Enforcement Branch  
100 N Senate Ave Room IGCN 1003  
Indianapolis, IN 46204

On the 7<sup>th</sup> day of November 2011.

  
Tracy Jamison  
Office Automation Assistant  
AECAB, PAS

CERTIFIED MAIL RECEIPT NUMBER: 7009 11680 0000 76715072